Women, Gender & Sexuality Studies

Gateway Courses

- SWGS 1125: Gender, Poverty, and Health - Social Inequalities and Social Policy
- SWGS 1127: Beyond the Sound Bite - Women, Gender, and Sexuality in The Daily News
- SWGS 1200: The History of Feminism - Narratives of Gender, Race, and Rights
- SWGS 1225: Leaning in, Hooking Up - Visions of Femininity and Femininility in the 21st Century (New Course)
- SWGS 1237: LGBT Literature
- SWGS 1247: I Will Survive - Women’s Political Resistance Through Popular Song
- USW 26: Sex and the Citizen - Race, Gender, and Belonging in the U.S.
- ER 42: Sexual Ethics as Ethical Reasoning
- SWGS 1229: Asian American Theater and Performance

Sample Advanced Courses

- SWGS 98r: Junior Tutorial
- SWGS 1210: Theories of Race and Sexuality
- SWGS 1246: Staging Protest
- SWGS 1424: American Fetish - Consumer Culture Encounters the Other
- SWGS 1457: Queering Affect - What’s Good About Feeling Bad

Sample Thesis Titles

Note: WGS does not require a Senior Thesis

- And I am Telling You, You Can’t Stop the Beat: Locating Narratives of Racial Cross-over in Musical Theater
- “Are you Ready to be Strong?”: Images of Female Empowerment in 1990s Popular Culture
- Beyond Victim-Blaming: Strategies of Rape Response through Narrative
- Biomedicalizing the Labor of Love: Narratives of Maternal Disability and Reproduction
- A Genealogy of Gay Male Representation from the Lavender Scare to Lavender Containment
- “The Potential of Universality”: Discovering Gender Fluidity Through Performance
- Sexual Apartheid: Marginalized Identity(s) in South Africa’s HIV/AIDS Interventions

Sample Faculty

Robin Bernstein:

Michael Bronski:
- A Queer History of the United States (Beacon Press, 2012)

Mark Jordan:
- Convulsing Bodies: Religion and Resistance in Foucault (Stanford University Press, 2015)

Caroline Light:

Afsaneh Najmabadi:
- Professing Selves: Transsexuality and Same-Sex Desire in Contemporary Iran (Duke University Press, 2014)

Sarah Richardson:
- Sex Itself: The Search for Male and Female in the Human Genome (University of Chicago Press, 2013)

Harvard College Women’s Center: focuses on providing comfortable meeting space, resources, programs and services to all students, with a specific mission to address the interests, needs and concerns of undergraduate women on campus.

Harvard College Office of BGLTQ Student Life: provides support, resources, and leadership development for bisexual, gay, lesbian, transgender, queer, and questioning students. Through collaboration with students and student organizations, the Office creates opportunities for fellowship, thoughtful dialogue, and the pursuit of knowledge. We seek to foster a safer, more diverse, and inclusive campus by educating and engaging the Harvard community about the multiplicity of sexual and gender identitites.

Arthur and Elizabeth Schlesinger Library: library on the History of Women in America is the leading research library in the field. The library holds more than 35,000 volumes, 800 collections of personal and organizational papers, 50,000 photographs, oral histories, videotapes, and other historical materials. The library collects information on women’s rights, suffrage, social welfare and reform, pioneers in the professions, and the family.

Sample Department Research Opportunities

- SWGS 98r: Junior Tutorial
- SWGS 1210: Theories of Race and Sexuality
- SWGS 1246: Staging Protest
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